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Children of Other Days

A Scripture Sketch for Seven Boys
and Seven Girls, and an Older
Boy or Girl to Conduct the Scenes

Characters

Naaman's Little Maid	David
Jonathan	Samuel
Miriam	Moses
Joseph	Isaac
The Fisher Lad	The Five Wise Virgins
The Leader	

Prepared By

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Price 10 cents

FILLMORE MUSIC HOUSE
528 ELM STREET CINCINNATI, O.

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CHARACTERS AND DIRECTIONS

Seven boys and seven girls are required for this play, and one older child to introduce the characters as they come in.

The children should be in costume (or if this is not desired, a sash bearing the child's name may be worn across the shoulder.)

Characters

The Five Wise Virgins.
Naaman's Little Maid.
Jonathan.
Miriam.
Joseph.

The Fisher Lad.
David.
Samuel.
Moses.
Isaac.

The Leader.

Each child comes in separately excepting the Five Virgins, who come one following the other, and form themselves into a semi-circle, leaving ample space for a boy to take his place between them when the time comes. A boy should be at each end of the semi-circle at the end of the piece.

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Children of Other Days

Leader.

Our youth, today, are brave and true,
We're proud of the great things they do.
We love to hear and love to read
And credit each praiseworthy deed.
The best is none too good, we say;
For our young heroes of today.
But for a while, "lest we forget"
The good examples other set;
Suppose we cast a backward eye
At some good youth of days gone by.
Let's call them now, from days of yore,

Calls.

Come hither, youth of Bible lore.

(Enter Fisher Lad carrying lantern.)

Leader.

Here comes the first, a fisher boy,
His story we will all enjoy,
Pray, tell what worthy deed you claim,
And also what might be your name?

Boy. I have forgotten my name, in fact they never mentioned it, but I am the little lad who brought the five barley loaves and two small fishes to the Lord when He was here on earth. From my poor little lunch over five thousand people were fed. All down the ages I have carried the Light of *Generosity*.

Leader. Generous indeed you were, my boy! But what a great reward was yours to thus help the Master in His work of feeding the hungry.

Bright light of Generosity,
Aglow for every need.
Shine light of Generosity,
And souls ahunger, feed.

(Enter the Five Virgins.)



Love light through the ages glows
Pointing to the skies,
Where its radiant luster shows
Love that never dies.

(Enter David.)

Leader.

Now comes a youth of splendid mien
And with a record good I ween.

David. I am the boy whom the Lord called from the sheepfold to be the second King of Israel. 'Twas a big thing for a mere shepherd boy to become a King, but seeing it was the will of God, I accomplished it. The light which sustained me was the one I now carry, even the light of *Courage*.

Leader.

Faint heart can never win the day
Nor travel on the upward way
Be strong, and trust the power divine
And let the light of courage shine.

Leader. Someone follows close on thy heels, David.

(Enter Jonathan.)

Jonathan. In me you see Jonathan, the son of Saul, the first King of Israel. I saw young David kill the lion and the bear that would have killed his flock. I saw him go forth single handed against the mighty giant Goliath, and slay him in the name of the Lord of Hosts. My boyish heart was captured by his courage and I made up my mind that this brave boy and myself would become fast friends, although he was but a shepherd lad and I the king's son. My light is *Friendship*.

Leader. Friendship is a beautiful light, and the whole world knows of the matchless love of David and Jonathan.

For filling all our earthly needs
Sweet friendship is the best of creeds.

(Enter Samuel clad in white.)

Leader.

We greet you lad in snowy white,
Tell us your message of delight.



Samuel. The child Samuel am I. My mother placed me in the Temple to serve the Lord from my earliest years, for I was sent as a special answer to her prayers. I heard the voice of the Lord calling me by name, and I answered "Here am I, Lord." I carry the light of *Ministry*.

Leader.

Oh blessed, happy child to find,
The God of Heaven so near and kind!
For ministry means serving Him,
A light that never shall grow dim.

(Enter Miriam.)

Leader.

Sweet, gentle maid tell us aloud
The deeds of which you are so proud.

Miriam. I am Miriam, the sister of Moses. I watched beside the muddy bank of the Nile to see that no harm befell my baby brother; and in later years, when we had both grown up, I took my cymbals and led our people in a triumphant song to God, praising Him for his deliverance of our race out of the land of bondage. The light I carry is *Service*.

Leader. Miriam's care of her baby brother is a beautiful story, and her wonderful song has echoed down all the ages. May we also ever be ready to burst into songs of praise.

Sweet echoes ring from other days
The glad notes of your song of praise.
Your light still shines and hearts repeat
In service is our joy complete.

(Enter Moses.)

Leader.

Now who is this, who comes with light
That shines through ages clear and bright?

Moses. I am Moses, who was hidden in the bulrushes on the river's bank. I was adopted by Pharaoh's daughter and brought up in the royal palace, but when I became a man, I refused to remain in such luxury and threw in my lot with my own down-trodden people who



were slaves. In fulness of time God called me to be the one who should lead our race out of their fearful bondage toward the promised land. The name of my light is *Leadership*.

Leader.

A special light will always grace
The chosen leader of his race.

You chose wisely, Moses. It is better to be on God's side even if it means hardship than to live in ease and luxury with evildoers.

(Enter Joseph clad in coat of many colors.)

Leader.

A stranger comes in coat so gay
Good lad, tell us your name we pray.

Joseph. My name is Joseph, you have heard of me. I was the second youngest of twelve brothers, and the favorite of my father who made me this gay coat of many colors. I am afraid that this favoritism made me rather conceited and I looked down on my brothers, so that at last they sold me into slavery. I was carried far from home into the Land of Egypt, where I endured many hardships. In the wonderful wisdom of God, I was delivered, and finally became Prime Minister of all Egypt and second in power only to Pharaoh himself.

Leader. I suppose when you reached such a high position, you were again inclined to be conceited and wished to punish those unkind brothers of yours?

Joseph. Oh no, I had learned better by that time, and the way I repaid my brothers for their cruelty was to bring them and my parents from their own famine-stricken land where they would have died of starvation. I was reconciled to them all, and gave them plenty of food and a large portion of the land for their own, and they all lived in comfort all their days. Return good for evil, that is the best kind of revenge, and that is why I carry the light of *Good-will*.

Leader. Your coat is very pretty, Joseph, and we are so glad that you were led to return good for evil. That is what we must all try to do.





Good-will, good-will to all;
 A splendid motto, you will
 A light for all that's just and good,
 To strengthen earth's great brotherhood.

(Enter Isaac.)

Leader.

A splendid boy now comes this way,
 What message do you bring today?

Isaac. I am Isaac, the hope and pride of my father's heart. One day my father Abraham received a message from God telling him to offer me up as a sacrifice, and although it grieved him very much to think of losing me, he had to obey God.

Leader. And were you really offered up as a sacrifice, Isaac?

Isaac. We set out early one day and climbed to the top of the great mountain Moriah, and we carried with us wood to make the fire for the sacrifice. My father made an altar and placed me on it, but just as he was about to sacrifice me, God told him that he was to stop.

Leader. Were you not very much afraid to die, Isaac?

Isaac. Of course, I did not want to die, but it was my father's will, and in those days children had to do what their parents told them. God told Abraham that he need not offer up his son, as the order had been given to test his faith. So I was lifted off the altar and we found a sheep which we sacrificed instead. The light I carry is Faith.

Leader. Faith is indeed a blessed light to carry. Let us pray that its beams may never die, but grow brighter and brighter unto the perfect day.

Now follow me, where saints have trod,
 The path of Faith, that leads to God
 With hearts that hope and trust and pray
 Aglow with Faith's bright, shining ray.

Note. The children now all sing a suitable piece such as "Jesus Bids us Shine" or something along similar lines.

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